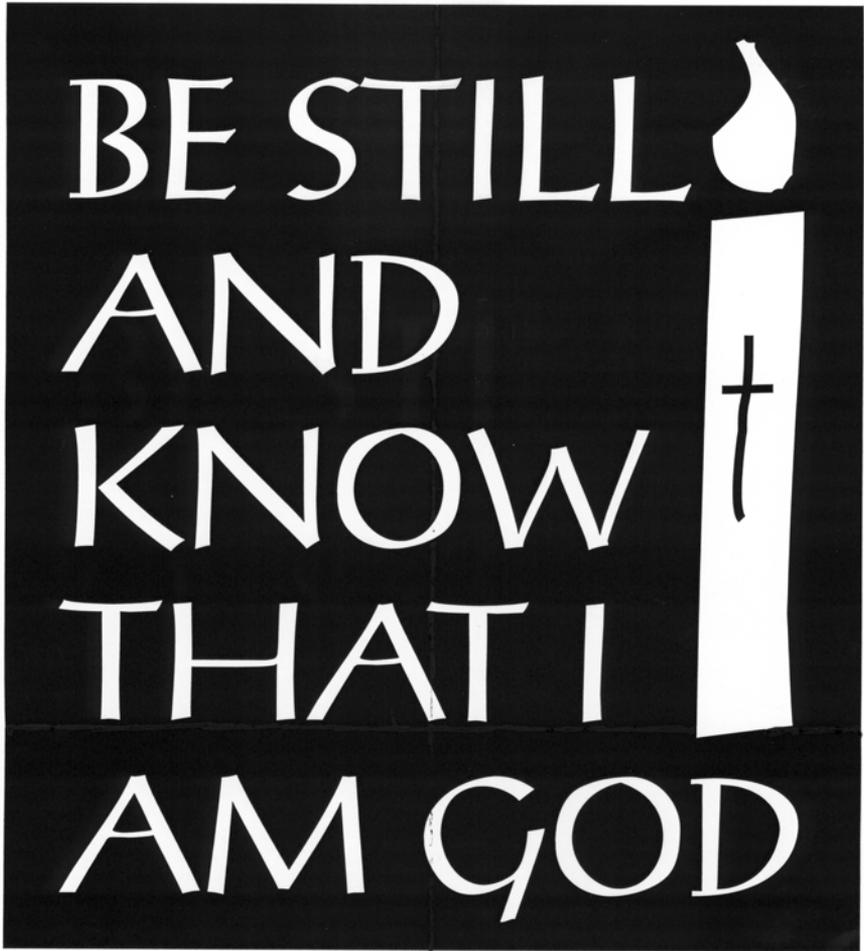


Compline:



An Order for Night Prayer

Week 1

*When all have gathered, the leader begins;
others respond with the portions in bold type.*

The God of peace grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

The angels of God guard us through the night,
and quiet the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide,
to lead us to peace and to glory.

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,
and so late take our rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.
**For those beloved of God are given gifts
even while they sleep.**

The Penitential Rite

O Holy One,
we call to you and name you as eternal,
ever-present, and boundless in love.
Yet there are times, O God,
when we fail to recognize you in the moment,
because we are so preoccupied with our daily lives.
Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts,
and we hide our true feelings.
Sometimes fear makes us small,
and we miss the chance to speak from our strength.
Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness,
and we degrade our own wisdom.

**Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset,
remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us.
Free us from shame and self-doubt.
Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities
to live honestly, to act courageously,
and to speak from our convictions.
In your name we pray. Amen.**

Psalm 8

O Lord our governor, *

how exalted is your name in all the world!

Out of the mouths of infants and children *

your majesty is praised above the heavens.

You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *
to quell the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

What are mortals that you should be mindful of them? *
Mere human beings that you should seek them out?

You have made them but little lower than the angels; *
you adorn them with glory and honour;

You give them mastery over the works of your hands; *
you put all things under their feet:

All sheep and oxen, *

even the wild beasts of the field,

The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

O Lord our governor, *

how exalted is your name in all the world!

Glory to the Father,

and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever.

Amen.

Revelation 22.1–5

The angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river, is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Thanks be to God.

Silence

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit;
For you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep us, O God, as the apple of your eye;
Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

Preserve us, O God, waking,
**and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

The Song of Simeon

Luke 2.29–32

**Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; *
your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation *
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
a light to reveal you to the nations *
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Statement of Faith

I believe in God...
the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Lord it is night. The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

**What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done; let it be.**

The night is dark.

**Let our fears of the darkness of the world
and of our own lives rest in you.**

The night is quiet.

**Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.**

The night heralds the dawn.

**Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new hope, new possibilities. In your name we pray. Amen.**

All offer prayers or thanksgiving, silently or aloud

Almighty God,

you have triumphed over the powers of darkness
and in Jesus Christ have prepared a place for us
in the new Jerusalem.

May we, together with all your saints,
give thanks for his resurrection,
and praise him in that eternal city of which he is the light. **Amen.**

Come, O Spirit of God,

and make within us your dwelling place and home.

May our darkness be dispelled by your light,
and our troubles calmed by your peace;
may all evils be redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ,
and all dying glorified by his risen life. **Amen.**

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,
for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star,
glorified and exalted above all for ever.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**